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Alex Gillis is the founder of Bitness, a retail-focused startup that uses smartphone signals to anonymously track store foot traffic and consumer behaviour. JEFF HARPER/METRO

## APP SAVVY

**Halifax high school student inks \$50,000 business deal on Dragons' Den spinoff**

metroNEWS

## 'We're wrong'

### PHARMACARE

**Province erred in income-based drug program for seniors: Premier**



Haley Ryan  
Metro | Halifax

In an attempt to make the pharmacare system fairer, Nova Scotia's premier said Thursday the provincial government was "wrong" to shift costs from one group of seniors to another.

During his state of the province address to the Halifax Chamber of Commerce at the World Trade and Convention Centre, Premier Stephen McNeil said the changes came from "a place of fairness" to eliminate premiums for 12,000 lower-income seniors on April 1, while raising payments for seniors with higher incomes and in couples.

There are many seniors in Nova Scotia who have to choose between medication and food, and the change was made to help address that, Mc-

Neil said.

But senior's groups have told him the changes will triple some people's payments too suddenly and burden couples just over the new income threshold, therefore shifting expenses heavily from low-income seniors to another group.

"When we're wrong, we're wrong, and we'll address it," McNeil said, but added he was surprised to hear opposition parties calling the move a "tax grab."

At a time when drug costs are escalating and a thousand people weekly are turning 65, the Nova Scotia government must "do the math"



**There's a problem, there's a disconnect.**

Premier Stephen McNeil

and make changes to pharmacare that might not be status quo, McNeil said.

"There's a problem, there's a disconnect. No

one wants that change of sustainability," he told the audience.

McNeil said he's working with the health department to see what changes would mean to the bottom line of the budget, and a decision should be announced before April.

More on Stephen McNeil's address, page 8



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## City claims three of top 50 most romantic Canadian restaurants

### FOOD

**If you haven't booked your table, you're out of luck**



**Yvette d'Entremont**  
Metro | Halifax

Open Table has revealed its 50 most romantic restaurants from across Canada, and three Halifax eateries made the cut.

But if you haven't yet made Valentine's Day reservations for you and your significant other at two of these top three, you are out of luck.

The three restaurants as judged by Open Table diners were Cut Steakhouse, Da Maurizio and The Press Gang.

Metro reached out to all three restaurants. As of press time Thursday, Da Maurizio and Cut Steakhouse were able to confirm they were solidly booked for the big day.

"The Steakhouse is fully booked. We believe that because the 14th is a Sunday

this year, guests will be more apt to expand the celebration to the entire weekend," said Cut Steakhouse owner Melissa Carey.

Her restaurant's phone starts ringing before Christmas to take Valentine's Day bookings so get a kick-start on next year.

Carey believes Cut made the cut in part because of its ambitious wine program, four-

diamond award, service and award-winning chef Luis Clavel.

Their most popular Valentine's Day menu item? The in-house butchered and dry-aged steak.

At Da Maurizio, some diners book for Valentine's Day a year in advance.

"This year our Valentine's rush starts (Thursday) night because when people couldn't get

in Sunday they booked for Saturday then that booked up and they got in for Friday and then Thursday," said Da Maurizio owner Tanya King. "Some will book for next year as they're going out the door this year."

King believes her restaurant made the top 50 list because of its décor, music and quiet ambience. She said the nooks and crannies make the space seem cosy even when it's bustling.

The big food draws for Da Maurizio's on Valentine's Day are the calamari and special ravioli.

"Calamari is every day of the

### + OPEN TABLE

**The three Halifax spots that made the cut:**

- Cut Steakhouse
- Da Maurizio
- The Press Gang

**“Some will book for next year as they're going out the door this year. Tanya King, da Maurizio's owner**

year, but people will splurge on it. Another favourite item is handmade stuffed ravioli in a heart shape," she said.

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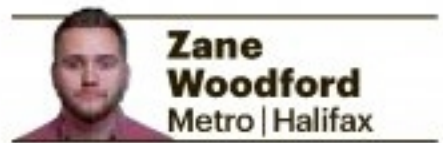
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# Complainant testimony is unreliable: Defence

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING

### Lawyer Laura McCarthy cites inconsistencies in evidence



**Zane Woodford**  
Metro | Halifax

The defence lawyer for a North Preston man accused of human trafficking argued in Nova Scotia Supreme Court on Thursday that the complainant's testimony can't be relied upon.

Doreze Marvin Beals, 19, was charged in April 2014 with human trafficking, sexual assault, kidnapping and other offences. Late last year, his co-accused, Andre Jerome Gray, also 19, pleaded guilty to charges of assault and confinement.

The complainant in the case — who was 15 at the time of the alleged offences, and whose identity is protected by a publication ban — testified during the trial in December.

She testified that Gray sexually assaulted her in a trailer near his home, with Beals in the room. She told the court Beals then dragged her by her hair and arm to his home, where he locked her in his basement from dawn until dusk on April 10, 2014.

Beals' lawyer, Laura McCarthy, sought to poke holes in that story Thursday.

McCarthy noted the multiple witnesses who testified that they saw the complainant during the time she said she was locked in Beals' basement, during the day on April 10.

"She was not in the base-



Doreze Marvin Beals heads into Nova Scotia Supreme Court in downtown Halifax on Thursday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

ment," McCarthy said.

"I would suggest that's something the court strongly needs to take into consideration when weighing her evidence."

McCarthy also pointed to photos submitted into evidence by the Crown that show the complainant kissing Gray in the trailer, time-stamped at around 1 p.m. on April 10.

"These photos demonstrate that (the complainant's) evidence can't be relied upon because she was very clear and consistent and unforgiving in her testimony that she was in the basement that whole day, and yet these photos suggest that she wasn't," McCarthy told the court.

As for the human trafficking

charge, McCarthy said there was no evidence to support that claim. The complainant had testified that Beals had told her when he put her in his basement that she would be transported to Toronto to work there as a prostitute — something Beals denied when he was on the stand.

"There was no action or at-

tempts to get her in a vehicle or transport her to Toronto," McCarthy said. "There was no suggestion that there was any formal plans of how this working in Toronto was to happen."

The Crown will give its closing statements in the judge-only trial Friday, after which Justice Glen McDougall said he'd reserve his decision.



**Andrew Younger** METRO FILE

## PREMIER'S OFFICE

### Staffer violated privacy

The office of Nova Scotia Premier Stephen McNeil broke privacy laws when chief of staff Kirby McVicar publicly released sensitive medical information about a former cabinet minister, the province's privacy commissioner says.

McVicar resigned Nov. 24 after stating in several media interviews that Andrew Younger had a brain tumour and had been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder.

In a report released Thursday, privacy commissioner Catherine Tully concluded that McVicar violated provisions of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

"The report finds that the disclosure is a breach of the privacy rules," the report says.

McNeil, speaking after a cabinet meeting, challenged Tully's main conclusion, saying his office was not to blame because McVicar took sole responsibility for his actions.

"If you go back, Kirby has said this was a decision that he made on his own," the premier said.

However, Tully said the province's privacy laws make it clear that the premier's office must be held to account.

"The public body lives through the actions of its employees," she said in an interview. "When an employee makes an error in judgment, and does so with information they gathered by virtue of their employment, that's the responsibility of the public body."

Tully's report places much of the blame for what happened on a lack of privacy training for the most senior staff in the province's top political office.

Tory Leader Jamie Baillie said McNeil owes the province an apology for breaking the law.

"Under pressure, the premier's office gave out private information about a person who they were in a public dispute with," Baillie said. "It's wrong and it broke the law ... The premier is accountable. You have to be able to trust the premier to keep the laws of the province."

McVicar declined to comment Thursday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## TRIAL

### Dennis Oland gets life in prison, no parole for 10 years

Dennis Oland has been sentenced to life in prison with no chance of parole for 10 years for the second-degree murder of his father.

Oland's lawyer pleaded Thursday that the judge consider his client's children in setting the sentence.

Defence lawyer Gary Miller provided Justice John Walsh with character references from Oland's family saying he was needed and loved and is a good caregiver. He said the case doesn't require more than the minimum of 10 years before parole eligibility.

"I beg Your Lordship, give him the kind of sentence that allows him to get home to his family as soon as possible," said Miller during the hearing in the Saint John courtroom.

Oland declined an offer from the judge to offer his own comments earlier in the day.

Before handing down the sentence, Walsh said a pre-sentence report described Oland as a well-educated, 47-year-old man with no previous criminal record. He also said Oland told a parole officer that he can't feel remorse because he is innocent.

"This was a family tragedy of Shakespearean proportions," Walsh said.

**This was a family tragedy of Shakespearean proportions.**  
Justice John Walsh

A jury found Oland guilty of Richard Oland's murder in December following a trial that lasted four months and

captured widespread public attention.

A conviction on second-degree murder carries a life sentence with a range of parole eligibility set between 10 and 25 years. All 12 jurors recommended that Oland have no chance of parole for 10 years.

But Crown lawyer Patrick Wilbur said the brutal nature of the elder Oland's death called for a sentence more than the minimum 10 years required under the law. He called for between 12 and 15 years in jail before parole eligibility.

Richard Oland's body was

found face-down in a pool of blood in his Saint John office on July 7, 2011. He had suffered 45 blunt and sharp force blows to his head, neck and hands, although no weapon was ever found.

After his conviction, Oland's mother Connie said in statement the family was shocked by the outcome.

An appeal of the conviction has since been filed but no date has been set. A bail hearing will be held Friday in Fredericton as Oland's lawyers seek his release pending the hearing of the appeal. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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# Student snags \$50K business deal

## TECHNOLOGY

### Teen sold two Next Gen Den dragons on his startup Bitness



**Yvette d'Entremont**  
Metro | Halifax

Alex Gillis hasn't yet graduated from high school, but has already secured a \$50,000 business deal.

The Grade 12 student from Sacred Heart School of Halifax appeared in an episode of Next Gen Den, which aired Wednesday night. The online spinoff of the television series Dragons' Den focuses on launching startups or early-stage businesses requiring less than \$100,000.

The show was recorded in September, but Gillis had to keep quiet until the show made its online debut. Gillis described it as a "huge relief" when two of the show's three business moguls agreed to back his company, Bitness.

The company uses smartphone signals to anonymously gather data that helps retailers track customer behaviour.

"I was a little disheartened when the first dragon was out of the deal, but I didn't let that knock me down," he recalled Thursday.

"The other two saw it as a great foundation for something bigger. They saw the analytics we were recording."

Bitness was founded in June 2014, when Gillis and co-founder Aristides Milios were sitting in an empty coffee shop.

"It was a summer's day and there were lots of people walking by the store except nobody was inside and they had all this staff running the place,"



Alex Gillis, a Grade 12 student at Sacred Heart School of Halifax, has secured a \$50,000 business deal on Next Gen Den. JEFF HARPER/METRO



**As a company, we have goals of getting into larger things like commercial real estate and health care.** Alex Gillis

he said. "So I thought, 'basic business'. That's not really sustainable for the store ... Something was not working."

While considering possible

solutions, Gillis investigated whether technology existed that could help pinpoint where vendors were going wrong. Finding nothing, he

created his own. Bitness can track the number of customers and potential passing customers.

"We are able to help the store owner figure out when the busiest times are, their slowest times, and when are the ideal times for marketing," he said.

Gillis believes Nicole Verkindt and Harley Finkelstein

of Dragons' Den backed Bitness because of its future applications.

"As a company, we have goals of getting into larger things like commercial real estate and health care ... so I think they saw that and alluded this was just the beginning, just the foundation," he said.

"They were really excited to hop onboard and build on-

wards and upwards."

Gillis started programming in Grade 5 and runs Hoist Halifax, a community organization aimed at teaching students in Grades 7 to 12 how to code, while also learning business and design skills.

He won the Startup Canada Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award this past December.



Residents have fun during a Sackville Snow Days event last year. CONTRIBUTED

## SACKVILLE SNOW DAYS

### Celebrating winter with legacy of 'controversy'



**Haley Ryan**  
Metro | Halifax

In its second year, one organizer says Sackville Snow Days is filling a void left by "seven dwarves and a lot of controversy."

The event running from Friday to Monday has costume parties, snowshoeing, skating, sledding, dances, a Monday parade and a new fun run to get people out enjoying winter, organizer Michelle Champniss said Thursday.

"Just getting out and celebrating snow. We live in Nova Scotia, right, we need to embrace this great weather and make the best of it," said Champniss, executive director of the Sackville Business Association.

Snow Days sprung up last year after Champniss said more than 30 community groups got together and agreed to host a modern spinoff of the popular winter carnival in Sackville from the 1980s and '90s, but keep it accessible with nearly all free events.

The carnival, which often used Walt Disney characters for

its themes, ended in the late 90s after a "kerfuffle" Champniss said she wasn't around to witness — but she knows the rumours of Disney cracking down on the carnival over copyright.

"There was ... something to do with seven dwarves and a lot of controversy," Champniss said. "You know how those things go, sometimes the story grows over time," she added with a laugh.

Whatever the reason for the carnival's demise, Champniss said there have been many people who have gotten involved with Snow Days who just really

## + SCHEDULE

See a full schedule and weather or location changes online at [sackvillebusiness.com/snowdays](http://sackvillebusiness.com/snowdays).

enjoy having that winter activity.

"There is certainly a demand, and I think it's because of that original winter carnival too — everybody was so excited to see something like that again," she said.





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Premier Stephen McNeil speaks to the Halifax Chamber of Commerce during his state of the province address Thursday at the World Trade and Convention Centre in Halifax. JEFF HARPER/METRO

# Change could bring some pain: Premier

## POLITICS

### McNeil says hard line was needed with teachers



Haley Ryan  
Metro | Halifax

Change is necessary to Nova Scotia's survival, the premier said Thursday, and it's inevitable that comes with "pain for

some of us."

During his state of the province address to the Halifax Chamber of Commerce, Stephen McNeil touched on introducing coding in schools, increased global trade, reducing red tape between provinces, immigration, local business leaders pushing the economy, and valuing the assets we do have.

"Change will always happen. It's the question of whether we want to shape it, or have it shape us," McNeil said to the crowd at the World Trade and Convention Centre.



**In order for our collective success, we have to do things differently.**

Stephen McNeil

"The status quo is simply not an option for this province."

After two-and-a-half years of decisions, McNeil said it strikes him how much people "resist change" even when we begin

to see positive results.

McNeil said the province has had "difficult" conversations with teachers during the collective agreement process in December when they rejected a contract offer, as well as thousands of civil servants, but said a hard line was needed since the province must act within its means.

"While we face lots of challenges, let's also celebrate our successes," McNeil said, adding new immigrants, more young people staying in Nova Scotia, and a positive business outlook are vital to recognize.

## PICTOU COUNTY

### Seal pup hit by car gets treated

A grey seal pup that was hit by a vehicle on a Nova Scotia road is being treated for serious injuries at a wildlife centre.

The seal, tentatively named Sammy, whimpered as he was carefully placed in a white tub surrounded by fleece blankets. It arrived at Hope for Wildlife in Seaforth early Thursday afternoon after spending the night in a nearby emergency clinic.

Hope Swinimer, operator of the facility just outside Halifax, said the marine mammal was found on a road in Pictou County by an RCMP officer late Wednesday.

Swinimer said the 20-day-old furry grey seal pup with dark spots and a long nose has an injured pelvis and is underweight.

"The first thing we'll do is get him rehydrated," said Swinimer, just after gently spilling Sammy into a large tub from his black carrying crate.

Sammy waved his head back and forth and moaned as the wildlife workers carefully held him down to give him fluids. The seal, with large black eyes and black whiskers, was to be hosed down and gently cleaned later Thursday.

Swinimer said if he survives, he'll stay at Hope for Wildlife



Sammy the seal pup arrives at Hope for Wildlife on Thursday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

until he's fully rehabilitated — roughly four to five months.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## COLE HARBOUR

### Man faces stunting charge, fines for speeding

A 36-year-old Cole Harbour man is facing a hefty fine for stunting after travelling 62 kilometres per hour over the speed limit, police said Thursday. The driver was spotted travelling outbound on Highway 118 near Dartmouth Crossing on Wednesday, with police radar clocking him at 162 kilometres per hour. The driver's licence is now suspended for one week, and he faces a \$2,422.50 fine and six demerit points upon conviction, police said. METRO



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# Mosque planning to share the love

## UMMAH MOSQUE

### Open house will welcome the community on Valentine's Day



**Yvette d'Entremont**  
Metro | Halifax

Halifax's Ummah Mosque is hosting a day-long open house they're calling Love Is Beautiful on Valentine's Day. The event will include food, an art exhibit and discussions, as well as a lecture around the themes of peace and love.

"With Valentine's Day being a well-known day for sharing the love, we just hoped to give our perspective on it and make use of that," Bridget McEwan, one of the event organizers and a member of the mosque, said Thursday.

"We will have a speech from the imam at the Ummah Mosque and he'll be discussing the theme of the event, which is love and peace and how it relates to our beliefs within Islam."

The mosque has hosted open houses in the past, but organizers thought Valentine's Day would be an ideal time to welcome the community into their space.

"I liked that it is not restricted to romance and there are so many dimensions to the topic beyond what we think of when we think of Valentine's Day," she said.

"It's a message of hope. It's a holistic message and it covers all kinds of things."

Guests will be available to chat with visitors about a variety of topics, including hijabs and supporting Syrian refugees. A local Syrian refugee is expected to visit the mosque to speak about their own personal experience.



People visit the Ummah Mosque and Community Centre during a previous open house in Halifax. JEFF HARPER/METRO

## IN BRIEF

### SPCA seize 20 dogs from suspected puppy mill

The Nova Scotia SPCA says it has seized 24 dogs and four rabbits from a suspected puppy mill in Annapolis County.

In a news release, the SPCA says the animals will receive medical care and veterinary exams. It says the dogs seized include four puppies and several have severely matted and urine-soaked fur.

The organization says charges are pending against the owner of the property in West Dalhousie, who was arrested on site by the RCMP.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Nova Scotians split over highway tolls proposal, minister says

Nova Scotia's transport minister says public opinion surveys suggest residents aren't necessarily opposed to a government proposal to set up new toll roads in the province.

Geoff MacLellan says polls he's seen suggest the public wants to see the details of the government's plan before making a decision.

Last June, the province an-

nounced plans for a feasibility study to use tolls to help pay for the twinning of up to eight sections of 100 series highways. MacLellan says he expects the study to be ready this spring. He also repeated the government's pledge to hold 16 rounds of public hearings before the government decides what to do.

"Based on the polling, it's almost split," he said Thursday after a cabinet meeting in Halifax.

"My own feeling is that people are OK to see what the plan looks like. They're not just ruling it out. They want to see the numbers ... I hope those public meetings are packed."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Province could help fit ferry bill for service to Maine

Nova Scotia hasn't ruled out pitching in money to help pay for a ferry that will be used to revive a service linking Yarmouth with Maine. Transport Minister Geoff MacLellan also says there is no deadline for Bay Ferries to acquire a ship, though he would like to see service start June 1. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# Trudeau, UN warm up

## UNITED NATIONS

### Ban Ki-moon praises PM for his efforts

United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon praised Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for last year's climate-change charm offensive in Paris, but urged him to spend more of Canada's wealth on the world's poorest people.

The usually staid Ban appeared almost gleeful at times Thursday as he took Trudeau up on his offer to re-engage with the UN during a packed, day-long visit to Ottawa, including high-level meetings on Parliament Hill and a feel-good assembly at a boisterous local high school auditorium.

"I am here to declare that the United Nations enthusiastically welcomes this commitment," Ban declared. He praised not only Trudeau's climate-change advocacy, but his desire to return Canada to its peacekeeping roots — which, he said, Canada helped create under external af-

fairs minister Lester Pearson in the 1950s.

Trudeau has stressed re-orienting Canada toward world organizations — the UN in particular — as part of a new multilateral foreign policy that often tries to invoke the so-called Pearson-era golden age of diplomacy.

Trudeau confirmed that Canada is looking to win a seat on the Security Council as part of a move to renew its relationship with the world body.

"We are going to evaluate the opportunities for Canada to mount a successful bid," he said.

Trudeau said he told Ban that Canada wants to be involved as a peacemaker.

During the tenure of successive Liberal and Conservative governments, Canada's commitment to UN peacekeeping has dropped sharply since the 1990s, when the country deployed thousands of blue-helmeted peacekeepers.

"I reiterated the commitment of our government to strengthen the UN's ability to maintain international peace and security," Trudeau said. THE CANADIAN PRESS



1 **Trudeau has told Ban Ki-moon he hopes to win a seat on the UN Security Council.** CHRIS ROUSSAKIS/AFP/GETTY IMAGES



2 **Ban Ki-moon joins Trudeau at a press conference at Parliament Hill in Ottawa.** CHRIS ROUSSAKIS/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

3 **The two leaders agreed to further co-operation.** ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS



**Coun. Bernard Cameron.**  
METROLAND MEDIA FILE

## ALMONTE, ONT.

### Councillor dies after shooting

A woman is recovering in hospital after being shot in an incident that killed her father, a councillor in a small eastern Ontario town, and left another man injured.

Sarah Cameron was taken to hospital with what police described as life-threatening injuries on Thursday morning after

a shooting at her father's home in Almonte, Ont., about 50 kilometres west of Ottawa.

"It is with profound sorrow and shock that I confirm that my colleague and friend, Coun. Bernard Cameron, died today in a violent incident," Shaun McLaughlin, mayor of Mississippi

Mills, Ont., said Thursday.

OPP said officers responding to a 911 call in the small community 50 kilometres west of Ottawa at 7:30 Thursday morning found a man's body and two people in life-threatening condition following a "serious incident."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## IN BRIEF

### Ghomeshi verdict to come March 24, judge says

Justice William Horkins announced March 24 as the verdict date after lawyers wrapped up their closing arguments in Jian Ghomeshi's sex-assault trial.

The defence argued three accusers were unreliable witnesses. THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Deficit expected to grow

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said the upcoming 2016-17 budget will show a deficit larger than the Liberals' promised \$10-billion shortfall cap.

Ottawa's goal is to generate the growth that will benefit the entire economy, he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## WASTE COLLECTION NOTICE GARBAGE/ORGANICS/RECYCLABLES

### Nova Scotia Heritage Day Honouring Joseph Howe

Please be advised that there will be no garbage, organics or recyclables collection services on Nova Scotia Heritage Day, Monday, February 15, 2016. Collection services for that day will be provided the preceding Saturday, February 13, 2016.

Collection Services can begin as early as 7 a.m. To ensure collection please place materials curbside the evening prior to collection day.



Download our **Halifax Recycles** app to search what goes where and receive weekly notifications.

No Collection NS Heritage Day Monday, February 15	➔	Collection will occur the preceding Saturday, February 13
Otter Lake Facility Closed Monday, February 15	➔	Otter Lake Facility Open Saturday, February 13 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
HRM Recycling Plant Closed Monday, February 15	➔	HRM Recycling Plant Open Saturday, February 13 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Household Special Waste Depot Closed Saturday, February 13	➔	Household Special Waste Depot Open Saturday, February 20 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

# HALIFAX

HALIFAX.CA/RECYCLE



# Scientists find gravity wave proof

THEORETICAL PHYSICS

## Discovery offers evidence of elusive Einstein theory

Scientists announced Thursday they had discovered direct evidence of gravitational waves, one of Einstein's most important — and elusive — predictions.

They captured the incredibly faint signal by recording the sound of two black holes colliding, an event that occurred 1.3 billion years ago.

"We did it," said David Reitze, executive director of the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO).

"That's the story today. But what's really exciting is what comes next."

Gravitational waves are one

of the critical predictions of Albert Einstein's Theory of General Relativity — they are ripples caused by mass moving through the fabric of space-time. With energetic enough movements, those ripples might be big enough for us to measure.

"It's one of the most exciting predictions of the theory," said Luis Lehner of the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics.

Yet when scientists celebrated general relativity's 100-year anniversary late last year, no one had yet reported a direct detection of the waves.

The discovery of gravitational waves is far more significant than simply confirming Einstein's predictions.

"It's momentous ... it marks the beginning of our ability to peek at the universe through a completely new window," said Lehner. "It's as if the floodgates are about to be opened."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



**MIGRANTS NATO DEPLOYS WARSHIPS TO END SMUGGLING OPERATION** Migrants and refugees queue for a meal distributed by volunteers at the passengers terminal in the port of Piraeus upon their arrival from the island of Lesbos on Wednesday. In response to Europe's gravest refugee crisis since the Second World War, NATO ordered three warships to sail immediately Thursday to the Aegean Sea to help end the deadly smuggling of asylum-seekers across the waters from Turkey to Greece. LOUISA GOULIAMAKI/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

ALAN KURDI

## Accused traffickers go on trial

Two alleged people-smugglers are on trial in Turkey accused of causing the death of three-year-old Syrian migrant boy Alan Kurdi and four other people.

The image of the boy — his lifeless body lying face down on a beach in Bodrum — galvanized world attention on the refugee crisis, graphically illustrating the magnitude of the journeys and suffering migrants risk.

Syrian nationals Muwafaka Alabash and Asem Alfrhad face up to 35 years in prison each if convicted of the charges of human smuggling and causing the deaths of five people "through deliberate negligence."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Alan, left, and his brother Galib Kurdi in an undated photo. HO/THE CANADIAN PRESS

NIGERIA

# Teenager abandons suicide-bomb attack on refugee camp

Strapped with a booby-trapped vest and sent by the extremist Boko Haram group to kill as many people as possible, the teenage girl tore off the explosives and fled as soon as she was out of sight of her handlers.

Her two companions, however, completed their grisly mis-

sion and walked into a crowd of hundreds at Dikwa refugee camp in Nigeria and blew themselves up, killing 58 people.

Later found by local self-defence forces, the girl's tearful account is one of the first indications that at least some of the child bombers used by



**She said she was scared because she knew she would kill people.**

Modu Awami, on the young girl's aborted attack

Boko Haram are aware that they are about to die and kill others.

"She said she was scared because she knew she would kill

people," said Modu Awami, a self-defence fighter who helped question the girl.

Her story was corroborated

when she led soldiers to the unexploded vest. The girl is in custody and has given officials information about other planned bombings, said Satomi Ahmed, chairman of the Borno State Emergency Management Agency.

Boko Haram's six-year-old insurgency has killed 20,000

people, made 2.5 million homeless and spread across Nigeria.

Awami said he had no information about how the girl came to be with Boko Haram. The extremists have kidnapped thousands, and there are fears they are turning some captives into weapons. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## THINK BEFORE YOU PARK

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**HALIFAX**



# Beer drinkers feel pinch

## BREWERS

### Weak economy hurting sales in oil regions: Molson Coors

Molson Coors Brewing Co. says a sluggish economy and higher food prices are affecting beer drinking in Canada's oil-rich provinces.

The Denver and Montreal-based company said the beer industry has seen customers, particularly in Alberta, shift from higher-priced premium to economy brands.

Sales volumes have also been slipping in Alberta, as well as in the oil-producing provinces of Newfoundland and Labrador and Saskatchewan.

Molson said its sales volume decreased 5.4 per cent across Canada in the fourth quarter. In January, sales to retailers for at-home consumption fell by more than 10 per cent, or by almost nine per cent excluding the impact of the termination of an agreement to distribute Miller brands.

Part of that decrease can be attributed to macro-economic factors, including higher food prices, said Stewart Glendinning, chief executive of Molson Coors Canada.

"The consumer is under pressure," he said Thursday during a conference call on the company's fourth-quarter and 2015 results.

"And if you add to that the fact that consumer debt in Canada is at an all-time high, it's made for quite a difficult recipe in some of those provinces."

Sales volumes for Coors Light were also reduced in Quebec by the brewer's decision to raise prices for its flagship brand.

Molson Coors said its net income plummeted 65 per cent to \$32.8 million US in the fourth quarter because of lower sales, currency fluctuations and reduced income from operations in Canada and the United States.

In Canada, pre-tax profits fell 32 per cent to \$51.8 million on \$341.9 million in net sales. That compared with \$76.2 million on \$423.1 million US in net sales for the same period a year earlier.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Molson Coors says a slow economy and high food prices are prompting beer drinkers, particularly in Alberta, to shift from higher-priced premium to economy brands. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

## HARRISON FORD

### Producers sued over broken leg

British health authorities announced Thursday they have issued criminal charges against the producers of Star Wars: The Force Awakens over an on-set accident in which Harrison Ford broke his leg.

The actor, who was 71 at the time, was struck by a hydraulic door on the set of the Millennium Falcon — his character Han Solo's spaceship — at Pinewood Studios near London in June 2014. He was airlifted to a hospital where he underwent surgery.

The Health and Safety Executive said Thursday it had charged Foodles Production (UK) Ltd. with four breaches of workplace health and safety laws. It said "by law, employers must take reasonable steps to protect workers — this is as true on a film set as a factory floor." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Harrison Ford  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE



Environmentally conscious customers want Tim Hortons to expand contest rules.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## ROLL UP THE RIM

### Contest upsets users of reusable mugs

It's a national pastime each winter, as Canadians across the country eagerly "Roll Up the Rim" to win prizes with their morning cups of Tim Hortons coffee.

But now, thousands of reusable mug owners are call-

ing on the popular chain to let them play without being forced to take a paper cup.

"Customers should not be forced to choose between an environmentally conscious option and participating in Roll Up the Rim," a petition at

Change.org reads. By Thursday morning, more than 14,000 people had signed on.

The petition was first launched last year by Ally Fraser of Beaumont, Alta. In a post this week, she said she presented the petition to Tim

Hortons' corporate head office but did not get a positive response.

"They dismissed our concerns. This year, with so much support, maybe they will finally listen," she wrote.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## market minute

	<b>DOLLAR</b>	71.83¢ (+0.06¢)
	<b>TSX</b>	12,087.44 (-98.28)
	<b>OIL</b>	\$26.21 US (-\$1.24)
	<b>GOLD</b>	\$1,247.80 US (+\$53.20)
<b>NATURAL GAS:</b>		\$1.990 US (-5.6¢)
<b>DOW JONES:</b>		15,660.18 (-254.56)

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## THE BIG THING

# CITIES of LOVE

The photo-sharing site Instagram is practically blinding at this time of year with so many shiny rocks on display. Among the 80 million images uploaded daily, the "#Shesaidyes!" ring picture is a contemporary classic. But, according to social media at least, it turns out there are significant geographical differences in regards to where people go to find love — and seal the deal. The U.K. engagement-ring company Ingle & Rhode analyzed 250,000 Instagram photos tagged with #isaidyes, #proposal, #proposed or #heproposed and cross-referenced them with geographic coordinates to rank where the perfect places are for popping the question. Two Canadian cities made the top 25: Vancouver and Toronto. (Famously romantic Paris was 15th, although there was no hashtag search *en Français*). Is there a great place for a romantic rendezvous in your neighbourhood? Or would you and your Valentine venture to one of these love-tastic locations to put a ring on it?



1. New York City



2. Los Angeles



3. Seattle



4. Miami



5. Chicago

6. Toronto



15. Paris



11. Vancouver

## metroview

### How love — and Canada — helped me rein in my drinking

Like many of my adolescent peers in Dublin, my relationship with alcohol began young. At 13, I made a pact with friends to smuggle booze from our homes to a secret seaside location, where we would all get drunk for the first time.

Most of my pals brought soft stuff; I came armed with Bacardi white. We proceeded to grimace and gurn through the forbidden libations, pulling hard off our cigarettes to mask the taste. I ended my day violently ill and with an enduring aversion to Bacardi.

This embarrassing introduction should have made me cautious. Nope — my mischievous side, my teenage stamina and my country's culture kept me imbibing through my teens and 20s.

By my late 20s, the recession was kicking in, work at the newspaper wasn't plentiful and I'd just painfully parted ways with a good woman — a recipe for an extended period of self-destruction. Four nights a week, I would quaff wine with dinner, followed by a feed of cans, go clubbing and then wobble home to bed. After three years of this, my newspaper job finally ended for good and I decided to leave Ireland in search of stable employment.

I zeroed in on Toronto: cold, yes, but with hot summers. And no Dublin-like rain. I arrived in wintertime and resumed drinking heavily. Fortunately, I met a lovely local girl, Suzi, who showed me the

ropes and, eventually, became my fiancée. Initially we happily boozed and clubbed in tandem, but she soon tired of the binge drinking, went on a serious health kick and eventually became vegan. I did not follow suit. Guilt pangs from booze-ups resulted in me trying to balance my habit with jogging, but I'd often find myself taking premature wheezy walks home.

After a few months I had a job at newspaper and was socializing with workmates. I'd get hammered while my colleagues paced themselves. I admired the Canadians' humble way, but the "craic"-loving side of me yearned for the mayhem of a Dublin night out.

Soon, however, the Toronto approach took hold (it helped that Ontario liquor stores close at 9 on the weekends). Meanwhile, my fiancée's lifestyle and ultra-healthy diet were rubbing off. I was exercising successfully and feeling better. And then I returned to Ireland. Back in Dublin for nine days, I drank eight of those days, got drunk on six and puked on two.

I returned to Canada a husk of a man, resolving to halt my partying ways. I challenged myself to a dry January and made it. If I hadn't moved here or met Suzi, I'd still be drinking too much back home. So thanks, Canada, for helping me to rein in this tricky vice. I'll occasionally drink to that!

**Eoin Weldon** is a Toronto-based writer and editor.

Read more of Eoin's story at [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)

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## Ryan Reynolds: Acting skills unmasked

Ryan Reynolds plays the mouthy antiheroic comic book superhero Deadpool in the eighth installment of the X-Men film series. CONTRIBUTED

### A MAN OF MANY PARTS

## Deadpool star not just a hot dude with 'tude

**Richard Crouse**  
For Metro Canada



Look! Up on the screen! It's Blade: Trinity. It's The Proposal. It's Ryan Reynolds!

Yes, it's Ryan Reynolds, strange visitor from Vancouver who came to Hollywood with powers and abilities beyond those of mortal men. He speaks faster than a speeding bullet! He can leap tall scripts in a single bound! He's more versatile than a roomful of Sexiest Men Alive!

I've paraphrased the famous opening of Superman, even though Reynolds has never played Superman in the movies. Careerwise, however, he has been a super man, leaping from genre to genre, piecing together an IMDb page so varied it'll make your head spin.

This weekend brings us another exciting episode in the adventures of Ryan Reynolds.

In Deadpool he's a former Special Forces operative subjected to an experimental treatment that gifts him with regenerative healing power and increased agility. Unfortunately it also leaves him filled with rage; thirsty for revenge against the doctor who changed his life. The character's greatest superpower, according to Reynolds, "is annoying the s— out of people."

### MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

**Zoolander 2** ★  
**Deadpool** ★★★★★

**HOW RATING WORKS**  
★★★★★ SEE IT  
★★★★ WORTHWHILE  
★★★ UP TO YOU  
★★ SKIP IT

It's not the first time the 39-year-old actor has played someone with superpowers. It's not even the first time he's played Deadpool. That character debuted in X-Men Origins: Wolverine and he starred as Captain Excellent in Paper Man, the darkly heroic Hannibal King in Blade: Trinity as well as donning the super-tight tights of the Green Lantern.

When he isn't battling crime, however, Reynolds has been more adventurous in his roles

than people give him credit. Peppered throughout his major Hollywood successes like The Proposal have been roles like The Amityville Horror's psychologically unstable father, Woman in Gold's relentless lawyer, and the crackhead Gary in the thriller The Nines.

Successful or not, those movies showcased a performer looking to stretch his acting muscles (and not just display his prodigious ab muscles). Here are some

other Reynold's roles that show his super-versatility:

**The Voices:** Reynolds plays the wholesome-looking Jerry, an eager to please factory worker with a crush on the cute accountant upstairs. When she stands him up for a date it becomes apparent Jerry has serious problems. As bodies pile up he grapples with voices in his head that tell him to do terrible things. Kitschy, strange and decidedly off kilter, The Voices has funny moments but revolves around Reynolds's winningly odd performance.

**Buried:** Reynolds is a civilian truck driver in Iraq, taken hostage, buried underground, who will be left to die unless a ransom is paid. The entire movie hap-

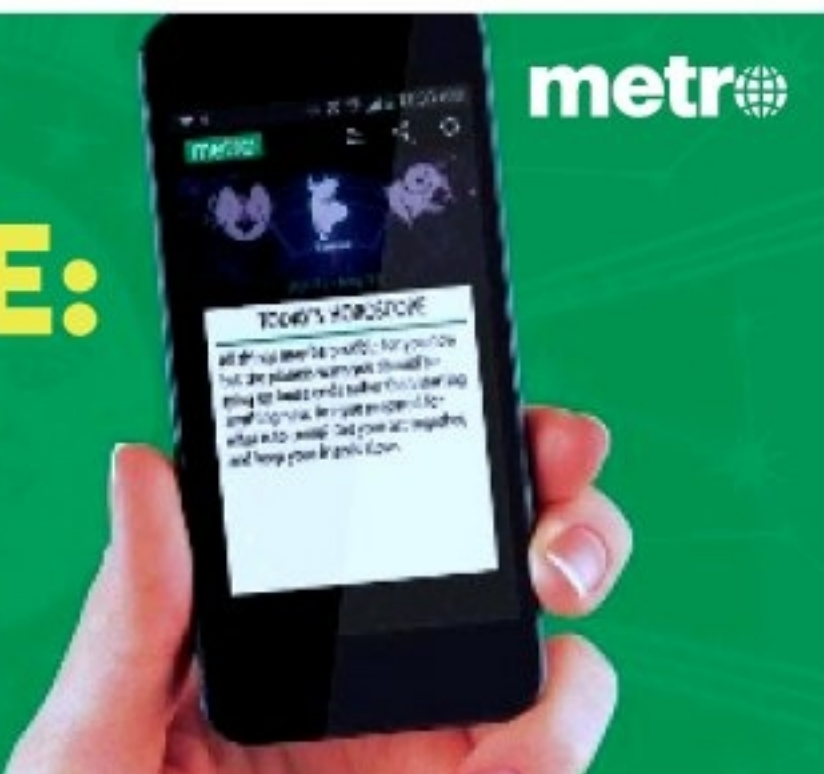
pens inside the four walls of a coffin with only Reynolds and a cell phone on display. Unable to rely on his usual comic timing and bulging muscles, Reynolds hits a career high, keeping the audience intrigued for most of the 90-minute running time.

**The Change-Up:** Starring Reynolds and Jason Bateman, this film is like several movies in one. It's part gross-out comedy, part heart tugger and all switcheroo. The set-up is Freaky Friday simple; the two leads swap personalities but it works because Bateman adds a little hyper Van Wilder inflection to his speech and Reynolds drops his energy a few notches to match Bateman's more laconic style. Both are likeable actors, with charm and charisma to burn.

## TODAY'S HOROSCOPE:

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Weeknights at 6: Hannah counts down the HOTTEST songs of the day.

### 6 SIX@6 LAST NIGHT:

- 6 Rihanna ft Drake Work
- 5 Beyoncé ft The Weeknd Might Not
- 4 Flo Rida My House
- 3 Selena Gomez Hands To Myself
- 2 Travis Scott Antidote
- 1 The Chainsmokers ft Rozes Roses

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## THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN

## Despite the familiarity and a few heavy-handed moments, Vinyl is thrilling, contagious and good TV

The worst part about cold and flu season is when Martin Scorsese is supposed to show up in Toronto to introduce the pilot of the new HBO show Vinyl he directed but he's a no-show because he's sick.

Simon and I had even prepared serious questions to lob at "Marty," despite there being no scheduled audience Q-and-

A. Him: "When was the last time you got through a whole day without someone saying: 'You talkin' to me?'" Me: "Do you know what 'Bobby' De Niro's favourite pasta was when he ate his way through Italy and gained 60 lb. for Raging Bull?"

But Bobby Cannavale, who stars as big time record label

president Richie Finestra in the 10-part series premiering Sunday, was in good health — and great humour: "I love coming up here," he said on stage at the TIFF Bell Lightbox in Toronto. "Every time [I'm here] is to premiere a movie that goes on to be watched by nobody ... all those movies — I'm of course proud to be a

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part of — have brought me to this moment. It's like I've finally been traded to the Yankees."

"God, he's got a great head of hair," Simon whispered.

"God, he's got great charisma," I replied.

"I think what you're about to see is unlike anything you've ever seen before," producer Terence "Terry" Winter warned the audience, "certainly not on TV, maybe even in movies."

Not exactly: There are drugs, blood, breasts — even, B-roll (albeit unseen) from Taxi Driver. But don't get me wrong, the two-hour pilot was highly entertaining.

I was stomping my feet to the music, covering my eyes from the violence, and laughing out loud, which are all signature Scorsese moves, not to mention his jumping chronologically in the narrative, epic swirling hand-held shots and directing a supporting cast — think Andrew Dice Clay, Ray Romano and Max Casella — who surprise and shine in their roles.

Even Vinyl's setting — New York 1973, a pivotal point in music when the foundations of disco, punk and hip hop were laid — feels like it's been mined before. It's also the year Scorsese's Mean Streets came out, whose soundtrack, coincidentally, features music by Mick Jagger, who shares a Vinyl executive producer

credit with him — and which trumpeted Scorsese as a director who uses music as though it were a supporting character. "Music and film are almost one and the same," he wrote in Gramophone. "There's the rhythm, the pace of music — and the equivalent of that in film is the camera movement, how long you hold a shot on screen before you cut, if you don't cut, the look on a person's face."

Despite the familiarity (including faces: Jagger's son James also stars in the series), and a few heavy-handed moments, like when Richie accidentally 'discovers' hip hop while driving through South Bronx in his chauffeured Mercedes on his way home to Greenwich — Vinyl is thrilling, contagious and good TV.

The music had been so loud that when we left the theatre into the cold our ears were ringing. "It feels like we just went to a concert," Simon said. And although we hadn't had dinner, we weren't hungry on account of the popcorn we devoured, which doesn't necessarily pair well with the '70s New York music scene but it's quintessential movie food. And Vinyl is quintessential Scorsese, who personifies film and therefore popcorn.

**Jessica Allen** is the digital correspondent on CTV's The Social.

### TV BRIEF

#### Binge on House of Cards Season 4 starting March 4

Netflix has released the official trailer for season four of their award-winning political drama House of Cards. Season four will see the return of Kevin Spacey as Democrat politician Frank Underwood, who will again be joined by Robin Wright as his equally ruthless wife Claire.

Scream actress Neve Campbell will also be joining the show, although her character has not yet been revealed. The fourth season

will be released on Netflix March 4, will all new episodes released at the same time so fans can watch as and when they wish. Netflix have already announced that a fifth season of the show will air in 2017. **AFP**



**House of Cards** CONTRIBUTED



# Who needs a boyfriend anyway?

Given the film's title, it's not unreasonable to expect the stars of *How to Be Single* to have a few thoughts on, well, how to be single. The leading foursome bring a variety of experience to the topic, from Leslie Mann, who's been married for two decades, to Dakota Johnson, who is currently living the single life in New York City. Alison Brie, meanwhile, recently got engaged to beau Dave Franco, and Rebel Wilson thinks it might be time to rethink the whole "eternally single" thing. Here's where they stand on the topic **NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO**

**1 LESLIE MANN** — "I've been married for 20 years. I can't even remember anymore being single," Mann admits. "I had so much shame when I was single. I would make out with a lot of people but I would never have sex because then I would feel bad. But I made out with everyone. And some dry-humping."

Mann is pleased, though, with the state of the world for single women today versus when she was in her 20s. "I'm excited for my daughters to see the movie because I love the message," she says. "This is going to sound weird but I tell my daughter Maude, who is 18 now, she's an adult, but I always tell her, 'Just show off your boobs! You have great boobs. And it doesn't get any better. I know what happens. Just enjoy them now, enjoy this time.'"



**2 DAKOTA JOHNSON** — "I am a single person. I love that I'm alone all the time. I love sleeping next to no one. I really don't want to be cuddled. I love to have dinner by myself," she says with a laugh. But seriously, though. "No, I actually like spending time by myself. I kind of cherish my time alone. I like solitude, so that's nice. But then being single also sucks sometimes — because you're single."

Johnson appreciates that *How to Be Single* shows women in a more liberated, sex-positive light. "With this film, I was attracted to the positive outlook on women, especially, exploring relationships with different people and being confident and comfortable and strong," she says. "That was the kind of thing that was appealing to me, because that's what's real, and it's honest and there's nothing to be ashamed of. That's what single women do."



**3 REBEL WILSON** — "I'm, like, eternally single, and I think I like it a bit too much, and I need to be more open to the possibilities of love," Wilson muses. "I'm very independent, I always have been. I went to an all-girls school and we were really taught to be independent. Although, one teacher did try to teach us how to marry a rich man and kill him. The science teacher, she would tell us, like, how to dampen the sheets and stuff, and sometimes we'd really listen to that. But we were always encouraged to go out and live our own lives. And from my own mother, as well, she's like, 'Don't have kids too young, because it will ruin your life.'"

Sound advice, though Wilson is starting to think that maybe she's had her fun already. "Now I'm at the point where things are going so well that I'm trying to, like, look for the right person. I just haven't found him in Hollywood. Surprise, surprise," she says. "I don't like smoking. And then maybe, like, lying? When they say they didn't have a fiancée, and their teammates supported that, and then I find out a few months later they did in fact have a fiancée back in their hometown? That's a bit bad. Yeah."



**4 ALISON BRIE** — "I think my favourite part about being single is just being able to do whatever you want, the freedom. You are your own person," Brie says. "Aside from your close friends and your family, you don't have to always be thinking about maybe whatever move you're making, how that is going to affect the person in your life. You kind of can fly by the seat of your pants. That's what I really liked about being single. It felt very fun and spontaneous."

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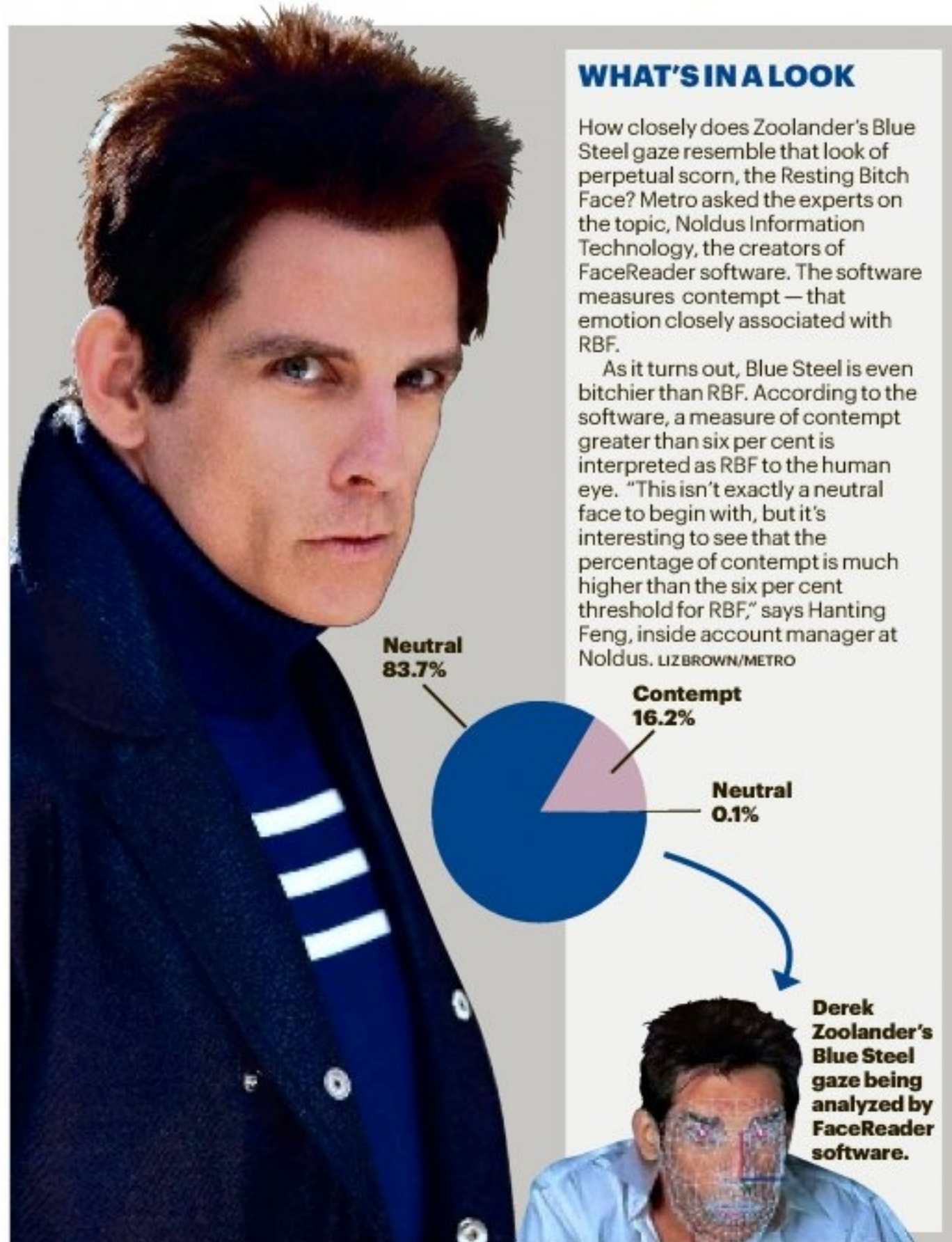
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# Dear God, they're beautiful



It's been 15 years since Derek Zoolander's really, really, ridiculously good-looking face graced the silver screen. But he's back this weekend, and he's middle aged, even dabbling in the anti-aging cream market with a NYC-based Kiehl's pop-up shop called the Derek Zoolander Center for People Who Don't Age Good. A Metro investigation dug up a few more middle-aged male models and discovered that, unlike the rest of us, they do age good. LIZ BROWN/METRO

## TYSON BECKFORD

**Age:** 45

**Career:** Beckford was discovered in New York City and recruited to be the face of Ralph Lauren Polo in 1993. He was also in the original Zoolander.

**Still got it:** Just last year Beckford was showing some skin as celebrity host of the Chippendales at the Rio in Las Vegas. With abs of steel and a face as soft as a baby's behind, Beckford isn't shelving his strut any time soon.



INSTAGRAM @TYSONBECKFORD

## MARCUS SCHENKENBERG

**Age:** 47

**Career:** Schenkenberg gained notoriety with his nearly nude in the shower shoot for Calvin Klein in 1991. In the early 2000s he was linked to Pamela Anderson and Jessica Simpson.

**Still got it:** A cursory glance of his Instagram account will morph into an afternoon creep session involving abs, gratuitous gym shots and shirtless shoots with horses. It'll leave you wondering what the specifics of his Faustian bargain might be.



INSTAGRAM @MARCUSCHENKENBERG

## MARK VANDERLOO

**Age:** 47

**Career:** Vanderloo is the man upon which Derek Zoolander's character is loosely based (The Zoolander name is said to be a riff on Vanderloo). You've likely seen him looking chic for Hugo Boss, where he's been one of their main models since 2005.

**Still got it:** Do you like a strong jaw? Do you like weathering in all the right places? Do you like a man who looks like your friend's super hot dad you secretly lusted after in high school? We thought so.



INSTAGRAM @BUGATTI

## REACTION

# Metro readers respond: Show us your best 'Blue Steel'



**I think we all use this look to make our cheek bones look extra fleek. — Andrea Llewellyn**

From left: Dyna Tuytel, Kat Gajewska, and Andrea Llewellyn of Calgary



**When would you use this look? For the paparazzi Who are you trying to impress? The media**

Ramtin Alikhani, Ottawa



**I opted for #LeTigre. Gotta keep #Magnum under wraps until it's ready.**

Nicholas Mizera, Toronto

**This is my daughter Piper at two months old showing her best Blue Steel. Her uncle argues she is actually doing Le Tigre!**

Kelly Macdonald, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia





## Colorado, two ways

### 1 On a budget?

Go to picturesque Copper Mountain, which is less than a two-hour drive from Denver International Airport.

#### Where to stay

Copper Mountain Resort's family-friendly ski-in, ski-out lodges' condos start from \$142 US/night and are casual (think lots of pine) but cozy (hello, fireplace).

Most lodges are equipped with a hot tub, gym and ski locker. With activities and restaurants spanning three Villages (there's a complimentary shuttle between each village) and ski rentals right at the foot of the mountain in Center Village, you get to spend more of your vacation time on the slopes and enjoying apres-ski life.

#### Where to ski

The mountain naturally divides into sections for beginners, intermediate and advanced, so if you're a newbie on skis or a board you can stick to the lower mountain or the green runs, which are far from the more difficult runs, so there's no need to fret about accidentally ending up on a black diamond.

Expert skiers, on the other hand, can head straight to shredding the bowls at Copper such as Resolution and Union, where they can find fresh snow on powder days. Download the Copper Mountain Sherpa app before you go so you can follow fellow skiers, track the vertical feet you ski, your speed, hear "audibles" (tips and messages) left by other skiers at certain points of the mountain, get run suggestions and more.

#### Where to eat

For breakfast, go to Endo's Adrenaline Bar & Grill in Center Village (the huevos rancheros makes for filling ski fuel).

Feeling peckish on the mountain? At the top of the American Eagle chairlift, grab a Belgian waffle or warm cup of soup at Flyers Soup Shack.

Come evening, swap the ski gear for smart casual attire and head to the posh C.B. Grille, located in Center Village, and dig into fresh local fare such as its striped bass and Angus beef.



### 2 Want to splurge?

About a one-hour drive from Montrose Regional Airport, Telluride offers slopes that are as good as Aspen but without the hype. Stay at luxe The Peaks Resort & Spa, where you can rest in your modern spacious suite, get a top-notch massage for your ski-weary muscles at the spa, and enjoy ski-in, ski-out access to Telluride Ski Resort.

This historic mining town, which you may recognize from Quentin Tarantino's flick, *Hateful Eight*, sits in a box canyon (read: unbeatable mountain vistas) where you can shop along its charming main street in town (get on the free gondola to get there) before dinner at Allred's. Everything there is a sure bet, but meat lovers should not miss the tender, juicy cider-brined Berkshire Colorado pork chop.

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## 5

## L.A. HOTSPOTS THAT'LL MAKE YOU FEEL LIKE A STAR

It's Oscar season in Los Angeles. With the 88th annual Academy Awards scheduled for Feb. 28, here are five places in L.A. to soak up those glitzy Oscars vibes and maybe even run into one of the nominees if you're lucky.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



## 1 Arclight Hollywood

One of the most striking movie theatres in the country, the Cinerama Dome has hosted oodles of film premieres since opening in 1963. It has more than 800 seats and looks like an enormous white golf ball chopped in half. With reserved seating, cushy stadium seats, a bar and cafe, and various film exhibits, the Arclight Hollywood is a popular place for movie fans and celebrities alike.



## 2 The Peninsula Beverly Hills

The Peninsula Beverly Hills hotel is known as the ultra-luxe stay for Oscar nominees. For those who can afford some true Oscars-worthy pampering, the hotel offers services such as a week-long "Red Carpet Ready" package of personal training sessions and spa treatments.



## 3 FIDM Museum

Anyone who covets the spiky, apocalyptic clothes in Mad Max: Fury Road or the silky 1920s outfits in The Danish Girl, both nominated for best costume design Oscars, will love the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising Museum's 24th annual Art of Motion Picture Costume Design exhibit.



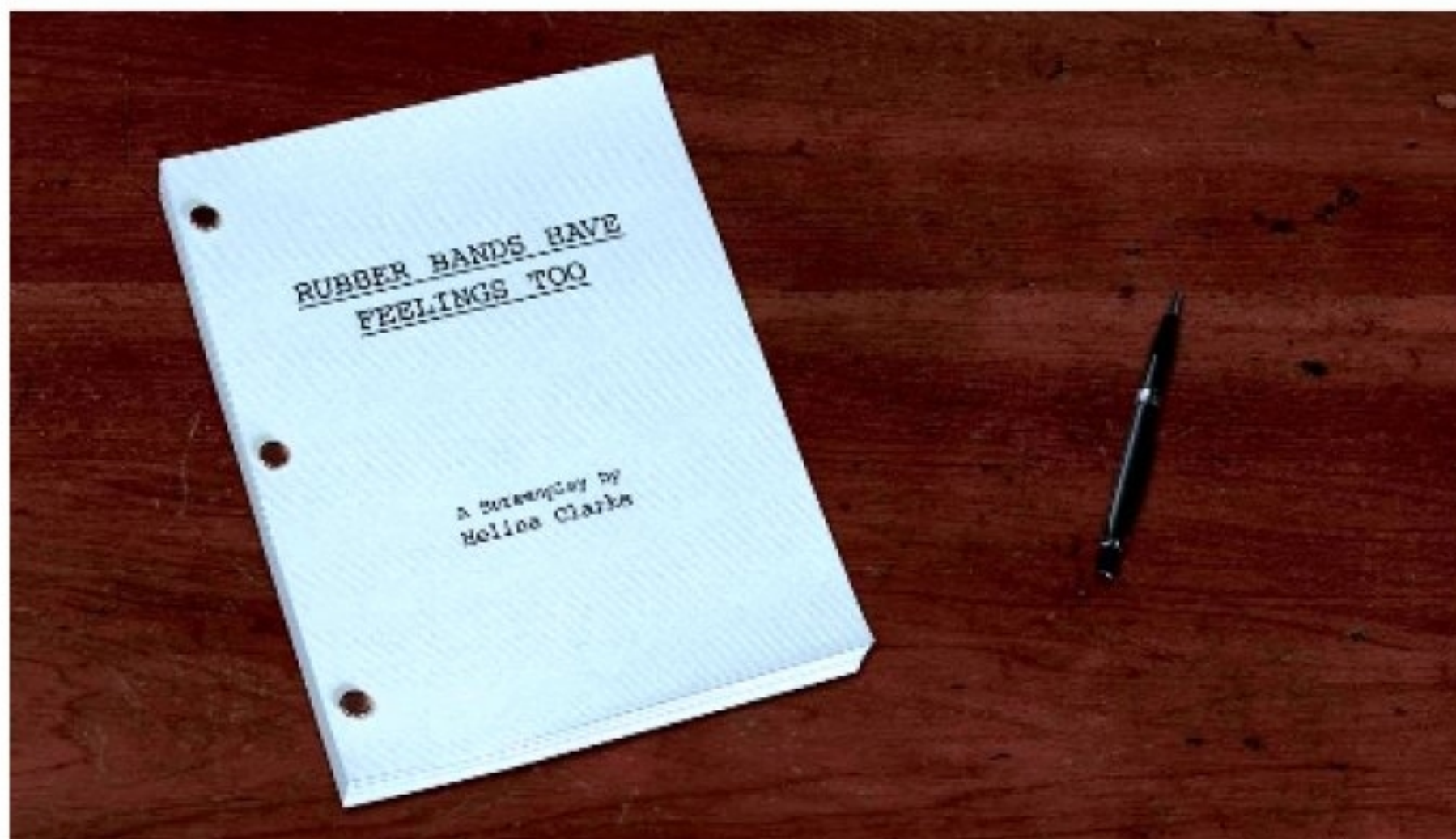
## 4 Runyon Canyon Park

Those tabloid photos you see of celebrities and their pooches huffing it up a winding dusty path? More than likely, they're photos of Runyon Canyon, a 160-acre nature park nestled in the Hollywood Hills. Hit the park's trails for panoramic views of L.A. at the top or join a yoga in the park class.



## 5 The Grove

With its sprawling swath of swanky stores, including Barneys New York, Swarovski and Diane von Furstenberg, this outdoor retail centre always attracts a slew of movie stars, from Mark Wahlberg to Oscar winner Halle Berry. Walk along the main path, or take a quick trolley ride to the historic Farmers Market next door. Around since 1934, the Farmers Market — a savoury-smelling mix of colourful stalls — serves up everything from thick pizza to gumbo.



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This year's Basketball Hall of Fame class includes three players certain to make the cut — Allen Iverson, Shaquille O'Neal and Yao Ming

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## Mid-season showcase lands north of border

Chris Bosh set foot in Toronto on Thursday and before he could put his hand to his phone, a probably unwelcome but familiar feeling hit him and stung any exposed skin, tensing his entire six-foot-11 frame.

"It. Is. COLD," the former Raptor, now an 11-time NBA all-star and six-year member of the Miami Heat, tweeted.

He's certainly not wrong. The temperature is expected to dip to -23 C on Friday and Saturday night.

If nothing else, the cold lines up perfectly with the arrival of basketball Christmas in Toronto.

The NBA and all its best players and personalities and the parties that come with them are in Canada for all-star weekend.

The festive feeling that started to percolate in downtown Toronto on Thursday will bubble and brew Friday and roar into a basketball-themed beast of its own for the weekend, culminating in the 65th edition of the all-star game Sunday.

LeBron James and Kobe Bryant are in Toronto. So is Stephen Curry and his Splash Brother, Klay Thompson. Bosh, Dwyane Wade, Kevin Durant and Russell Westbrook. The insanely talented list goes on and on. Paul George, Carmelo Anthony, DeMar DeRozan and Kyle Lowry.

Given the magnitude of the talent assembled for Sunday's game, the weekend starts off almost inconspicuously Friday with the NBA celebrity game and its 7 p.m. tipoff at Ricoh Coliseum.

There's a distinctly Canadian flavour to the game, with Drake coaching a Canadian team along-

side two-time NBA MVP Steve Nash against comedian Kevin Hart's U.S. team.

Drake and Nash will oversee a team that features Jose Bautista, Milos Raonic and former players Tracy McGrady, Rick Fox and Tammy Sutton-Brown. Actor Nick Cannon and former Raptors Chauncey Billups and Muggsy Bogues are on Hart's team.

The first NBA-related piece of the weekend comes next, with the Rising Stars Challenge at Air Canada Centre. The league modifying the rookies vs. sophomores game to a U.S. against the World Team setup last year works perfectly for the first all-star weekend outside America.

As long as the game is played in the States, Friday will mark the only time that Team World is the fan favourite.

"That's really cool," said Dallas Maverick and Toronto native Dwight Powell, a second-year forward who'll be on Team World.

"I think it speaks to the globalization of the game, how many people it's touching across the world and the NBA specifically."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## OUR GUYS

Three Canadians — **Andrew Wiggins**, pictured, Dwight Powell and Trey Lyles — will play for the World Team versus the U.S. in Friday's Rising Stars game.

Wiggins was the game's MVP last year in New York, thanks to a 22-point effort to lead Team World to a 121-112 win.



GETTY IMAGES

Raptors guards **DeMar DeRozan**, left, and **Kyle Lowry** will represent the Eastern Conference in Sunday's all-star game in Toronto.

JENNIFER POTTHEISER/NBAE VIA GETTY IMAGES

**"Literally we were writing down our hopes, our dreams, our visions for the Raptors. And one of the dreams was to play the first international all-star game outside of the U.S"**

Isiah Thomas, the Raptors' first-ever general manager

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# Habs keeping it real

NHL

## Canadiens well aware 3-game streak means little right now

The Montreal Canadiens aren't about to start turning cartwheels just because they've won three games in a row.

After spoiling a spectacular 19-4-3 start to the season with a 5-20-1 run from Dec. 3 to Feb. 3, three measly wins is not enough.

And who is to say if their mid-season funk is really over or if their wins over Edmonton, Carolina and Tampa Bay in the past week were a mirage?

"It humbles us when we win," forward Dale Weise said Thursday. "Maybe we would have got more excited about a three-game winning streak before, but we're not out of the water yet by any stretch."

"We've strung some wins



Canadiens' Brendan Gallagher, centre, celebrates his goal against the Tampa Bay Lightning. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

together and we haven't done that in a long time, which is positive, but we're not getting ahead of ourselves."

The Canadiens hope to make it four in a row when they visit the Buffalo Sabres on Friday night, which would match their four-game streak of Nov. 20-27. That was the last time they won as many as two in a row.

The Canadiens (27-24-4) finished second overall in the National Hockey League with 50 wins and 110 points last season, but now are facing tough odds just to make the playoffs.

As of Thursday, their 58 points were four behind Pittsburgh and Tampa Bay, who were tied for third place in the Atlantic Division, each with two games

5

Number of wins the Habs recorded during 26 games between Dec. 3 and Feb. 3.

in hand. Last season it took 97 points to get the last Eastern Conference playoff spot. To top that, they would need to win 20 of their remaining 27 games, or get the equivalent in a combination of wins and overtime points. "We're trying not to worry about that," said forward Brendan Gallagher. "We try to go into each game with the same mindset."

The Canadiens remain baffled by the slump. In several of those games, they outplayed and outshot opponents but ended up losing.

"I never saw a team play so well and come out with so few points," said centre Lars Eller.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## IN BRIEF

### Leafs' Kadri hit with fine for throat-slash gesture

Toronto Maple Leafs forward Nazem Kadri was fined \$5,000 US by the NHL on Thursday for an inappropriate gesture aimed at Calgary Flames defenceman Mark Giordano during a game this week.

Kadri was upset after Giordano drilled him with an open-ice hit in the first period of Calgary's 4-3 home win on Tuesday night. Kadri made a throat-slash gesture once he returned to the bench. THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Sunderland fires Johnson after guilty plea in sex case

EPL club Sunderland has fired winger Adam Johnson after he pleaded guilty to grooming and sexual activity with a 15-year-old girl at the start of his trial.

Former Manchester City player Johnson, who has played 12 times for England, continues to deny two further counts of sexual activity with a child. Sunderland dismissed Johnson ahead of his trial.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Raonic unable to resume court training due to injury

Canadian tennis player Milos Raonic has been unable to resume on-court training due to a torn adductor muscle.

The injury hampered Raonic in a semifinal loss to Andy Murray at the Australian Open last month and Murray won the last two sets to win. THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Ticats sign Owens an hour after Bulcke exits for Argos

Moments after losing Canadian defensive lineman Brian Bulcke to Toronto, Kent Austin counter-punched the arch-rival Argonauts.

The Ticats head coach/GM agreed to terms with former Argos standout Chad Owens on a one-year deal Thursday, less than an hour after Bulcke agreed to leave Hamilton.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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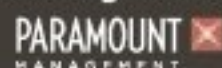
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- Private Balcony
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- Modern Fitness Facility with Yoga Area
- New Blinds
- In-Suite Laundry\*\*
- 24/7 On-site Staff
- Cat & Dog Friendly on Select Floors
- Underground Parking\*\*

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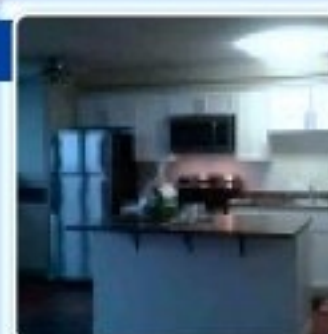
### BEDFORD HEIGHTS 22-40 Bedros Lane, Halifax

Overlooking Bedford Basin

2 BR & 2 BR Large

- Modern Suites with Spacious Balconies
- 6 Appliances
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- 2 Full Baths
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- Fob Access
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- 24/7 On-site Staff

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### SPRING GARDEN APTS 5770 Spring Garden Rd., Halifax

Steps to Public Gardens & the shops on Spring Garden Rd.

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- Newly Renovated Suites
- Community Room
- Pet Friendly (Cats & Dogs)
- Underground Parking & On-site Storage
- 24/7 On-site Staff
- New Blinds
- 24/7 Laundry Facilities

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### GARRISON WATCH/HARBOUR RIDGE 5536 Sackville St., Halifax

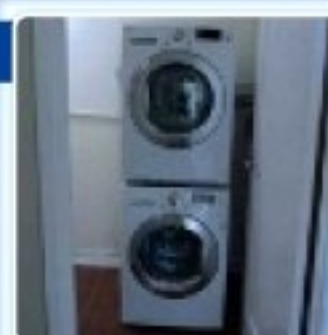
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1 BR & 2 BR

(No Security Deposit on Select Suites)

- Modern Suites in Downtown Halifax
- In-suite Laundry\*\*
- Spacious Suites
- In-suite AC\*\*
- Pet Friendly (Cats & Dogs)
- 6 Appliances\*\*
- New Blinds
- Fob Access
- 24/7 On-site Staff

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- Fob Access
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- Fob Access
- 24/7 On-site Staff
- New Blinds
- Cat Friendly

NO  
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5 % Senior, Military & Capital Health  
Employee Discounts Available

\*\*Available in Selected Suites.

\*Starting prices, availability and incentives are subject to change without notice. E. & O. E.

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# RECIPE Garlic Apples Grilled Cheese



PHOTO: MAYA VISNIVEI

**Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh**  
For Metro Canada

The only thing you need to add to this crunchy, garlicky grilled cheese is a fresh green salad. Or a glass of wine. Or both. Yeah, definitely have both — it's Friday!

**Ready in**  
Prep time: 5 minutes  
Total time: 15 minutes  
**Serves 2**

**Ingredients**  
• 1 Tbsp butter  
• 1 clove garlic, grated  
• 1 Gala apple, peeled and thinly sliced  
• 4 pieces of multi-grain bread  
• 1/2 cup crumbled, aged cheddar

## Directions

1. In a medium frying pan, melt butter over medium heat. Add garlic and sauté until garlic is translucent, about 2 minutes.
2. Toss in apples and sauté until soft, about 2 to 3 minutes. Remove apples and place on a clean plate.
3. In the same pan, place a slice of bread and then cover the top with the shaved cheddar. Lay slice of apple atop cheese and then cap with the other slice of bread. Cook until the underside becomes a gold brown then flip. Remove from the pan and serve when the cheese melts thoroughly and the top is also a golden brown. Repeat with other two slices of bread.

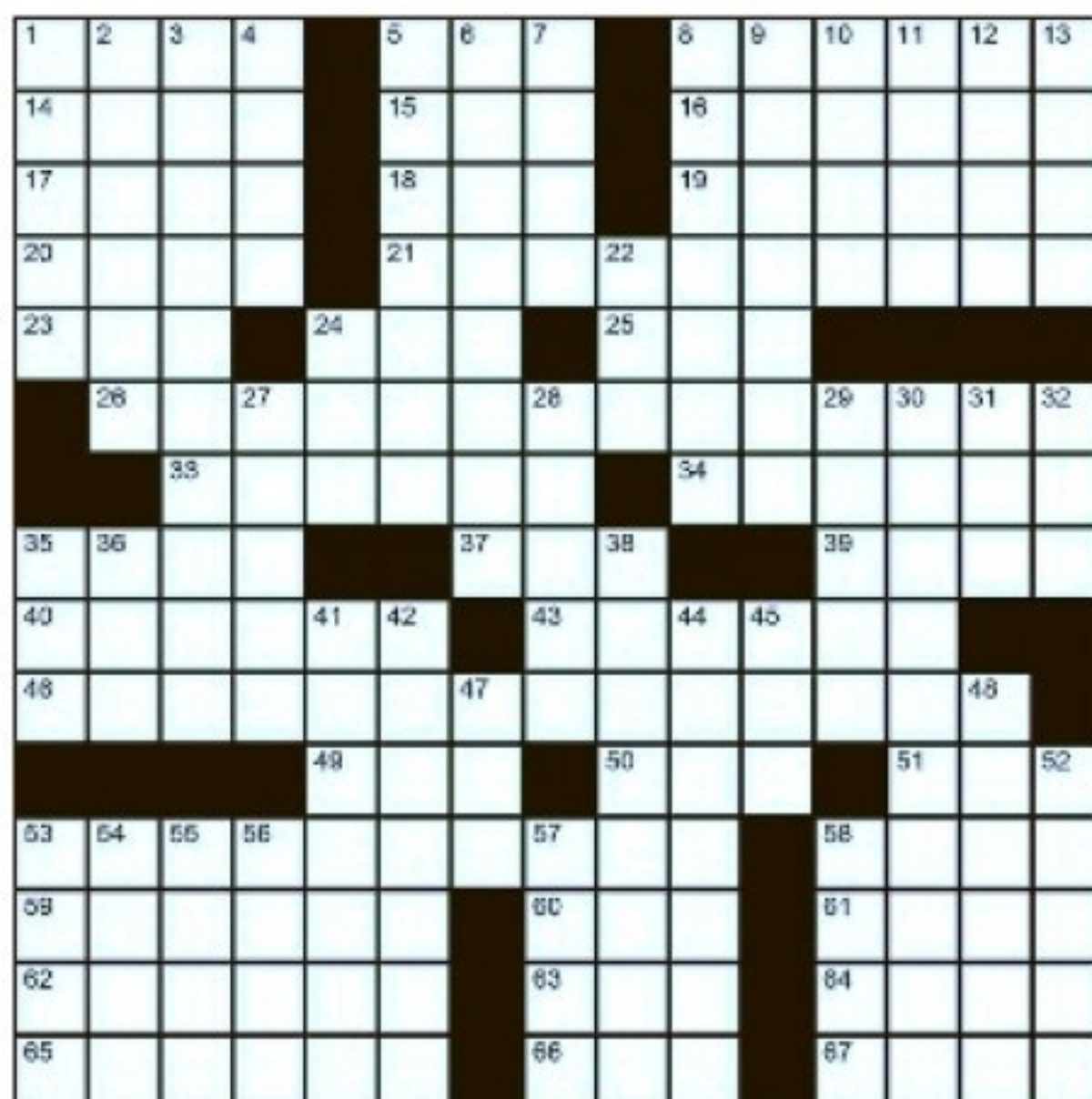
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# CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

## ACROSS

1. Cobras
5. FM's opposites
8. "\_\_\_ House on the Prairie"
14. Shetland \_\_\_
15. Allow
16. Kind of: 3 wds.
17. Additionally
18. Star's secret
19. Selection
20. Cobblestone
21. Song from the musical Hair: "\_\_\_ England"
23. "Let me think..."
24. Car or truck, e.g.
25. Not him
26. Caribou, for instance: 2 wds.
33. Give
34. \_\_\_ of Liberty
35. Particular
37. Camera variety, commonly
39. Puny physicians
40. Runway surface
43. Cats mystery writer, \_\_\_ Jackson Braun
46. Super Channel show which is a nominee in the 'Best Comedy Series' category for the upcoming 2016 Canadian Screen Awards: 3 wds.
49. Apiece
50. Ron \_\_\_ (Star of '60s series "Tarzan")
51. Cry
53. The workplace setting that 'Gottfried Brothers' is on the show at #46-Across: 2 wds.
58. "Dial \_\_\_ Murder" (1954)



59. Anxiety
60. Coffee holder
61. Sacred Hindu text
62. \_\_\_ burner (Lab device)
63. Flight schedule acronym
64. Fur

65. Gauge
66. Draperies bar
67. Leave in, in proofreading

## DOWN

1. Flooded
2. Seriously sincere
3. Like some late

- 20th-century architecture
4. Letter insertion site, sometimes
5. Town in southern Saskatchewan meaning 'Avenue of Trees'
6. Blockbusters

7. British WWII sub-machine gun
8. Caribou use their hooves to search for these food sources beneath the snow
9. Get left stuff via a will
10. New Mexico's

- artsy town
11. Bit of a jerk
12. Pretty material
13. Glancer
22. NBA Hornets city, for short
24. Irish singer Mr. Morrison
27. Fun-style parent
28. Lockups
29. Tea Leoni drama on CBS, "\_\_\_ Secretary"
30. Where to have the world as a success: 3 wds.
31. Cote Saint-\_\_\_, Quebec
32. The Outsiders author Ms. Hinton's
35. Addams Family relative
36. \_\_\_ Chi (Martial Art)
38. Decrease of tempo, in music
41. Places in close proximity
42. Mark Twain's real surname
44. Frog's furniture: 2 wds.
45. Polar
47. Dadaist Jean
48. One-of-some in many soups
52. Benjamin of movies/TV
53. Marching band instrument
54. Burden
55. Hankerings
56. Instance
57. Tennis serving whiz
58. Trophy-receiving athletes, e.g.

# ★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

**Aries** March 21 - April 20  
Forget about what others expect and do only what interests you. But you don't have to do it on your own. Group activities are under excellent stars at the moment, so get together with people who share your vision.

**Taurus** April 21 - May 21  
Why burden yourself with so many commitments? Just because you can do most tasks better than other people you know does not mean you have to do them. Learn to delegate.

**Gemini** May 22 - June 21  
Expand your horizons. A long-distance trip would be an ideal way to make use of today's cosmic influences, but if that isn't possible at least broaden your mind.

**Cancer** June 22 - July 23  
If you need assistance today all you have to do is ask. That applies especially to money matters. Joint financial enterprises are now under excellent stars and will be for quite some time, so get a partner and get rich!

**Leo** July 24 - Aug. 23  
If you want to get things done today you will have to make others feel as if they are the center of your universe. Make them believe that life revolves around their existence. Then they will do whatever you ask them to.

**Virgo** Aug. 24 - Sept. 23  
Jupiter in your sign makes you want to work but it also makes you want to have fun. Get your work done today so that your weekend will be clear.

**Libra** Sept. 24 - Oct. 23  
If you are dissatisfied with your lot then raise your sights and start living up to your potential. The Sun in Aquarius will do wonders for your confidence, lack of which is the only thing holding you back.

**Scorpio** Oct. 24 - Nov. 22  
You have far too many things going on at the moment. If a friend drops hints that they need your support you may feel obliged to give it but make sure they know there are limits.

**Sagittarius** Nov. 23 - Dec. 21  
Your social life will blossom and you will be so in demand that you have to turn some invitations down. You will get on best with people in whose company you feel totally relaxed.

**Capricorn** Dec. 22 - Jan. 20  
You'll get more than one opportunity to boost your income, so don't worry if your cash flow situation does not look too good. The planets indicate there's big money in your future.

**Aquarius** Jan. 21 - Feb. 19  
Luck is on your side. If you take advantage of it there is no end to what you can accomplish. Don't listen to those who say there are limits to what can be done. For you those limits no longer exist!

**Pisces** Feb. 20 - March 20  
At this time of year, your imagination is strong, so take part in something creative. Writing, dancing and singing are all well starred, so get out there and put on a show.

## CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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**metro**

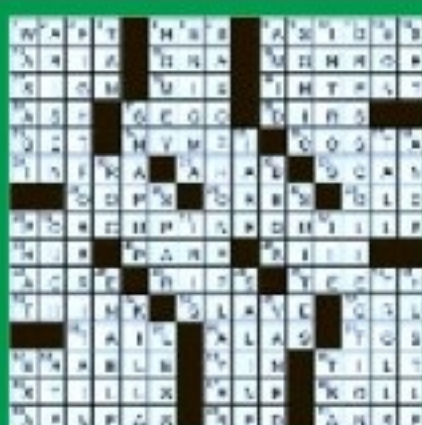
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CITY: 8.5L/100 KM\*

Sport Appearance Package model shown\*



HWY: 6.3L/100 KM  
CITY: 8.9L/100 KM\*

5-Door GLS model shown\*

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- ✓ DUAL HEATED POWER OUTSIDE MIRRORS
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WEEKLY

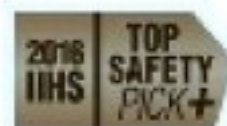
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